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Job Vacancies, Australia

Results of the quarterly Job Vacancies Survey containing estimates of job vacancies classified by industry, sector and state/territory.

Reference period August 2022

Released 29/09/2022

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Key statistics

Seasonally adjusted estimates for August 2022:

- Total job vacancies were 470,900, a decrease of 2.1% from May 2022.
- Private sector vacancies were 425,500, a decrease of 3.3% from May 2022.
- Public sector vacancies were 45,300, an increase of 10.5% from May 2022.

Job vacancies, public and private sector, seasonally adjusted

	Aug-2022	Quarterly Change	Annual Change
	'000	%	%
Private sector	425.5	-3.3	40.4
Public sector	45.3	10.5	44.7
Private and public sectors	470.9	-2.1	40.8

Survey impacts and changes

Seasonally adjusted and trend estimates

In the May 2020 Job Vacancies release, the ABS changed the method used to produce seasonally adjusted estimates from the 'concurrent' method to the 'forward factors' method. The forward factors approach is better suited to managing large movements at the end point of series and ensures that large movements do not have a disproportionate influence on the seasonal factors. The forward factors approach is not considered suitable for series with a non-seasonal span, and the concurrent adjustment method continued to be used for these series.

Since May 2020, trend estimates have also been suspended for all job vacancies series.

A review of seasonal factors will be undertaken for the November 2022 quarter. If the series have stabilised, trend will be reinstated and seasonally adjusted estimates will revert to using concurrent adjustment in the November 2022 publication to be released on 12 January 2023.

Survey response remains high in August

The response for the Job Vacancies Survey August 2022 quarter remained high. The ABS would like to thank the Australian business community for their continued support in responding to our surveys during such a challenging time, given how critically important this information is.

Other measures of labour demand

In addition to Job Vacancies, there are a number of non-ABS indicators that measure labour demand using alternative concepts, sources and methods. These are also widely used as leading indicators of employment. Prominent examples include the ANZ Job

Advertisement Series, the SEEK Employment Report, and the National Skills Commission's Internet Vacancy Index.

Measures of job vacancies and job advertisements will differ for a number of reasons. One of the key differences is that job vacancies includes jobs for which job advertisements are undertaken but also include jobs where other recruitment approaches are exclusively used, such as word of mouth or social media. According to the National Skills Commission's Recruitment Experiences and Outlook Survey, 22 per cent of jobs are not advertised (i.e. recruitment is done through word of mouth alone or by considering people who approach the business). For further details on recruitment practices, please see the [Employers' Recruitment Insights \(https://lmip.gov.au/default.aspx?LMIP/GainInsights/EmployersRecruitmentInsights\)](https://lmip.gov.au/default.aspx?LMIP/GainInsights/EmployersRecruitmentInsights).

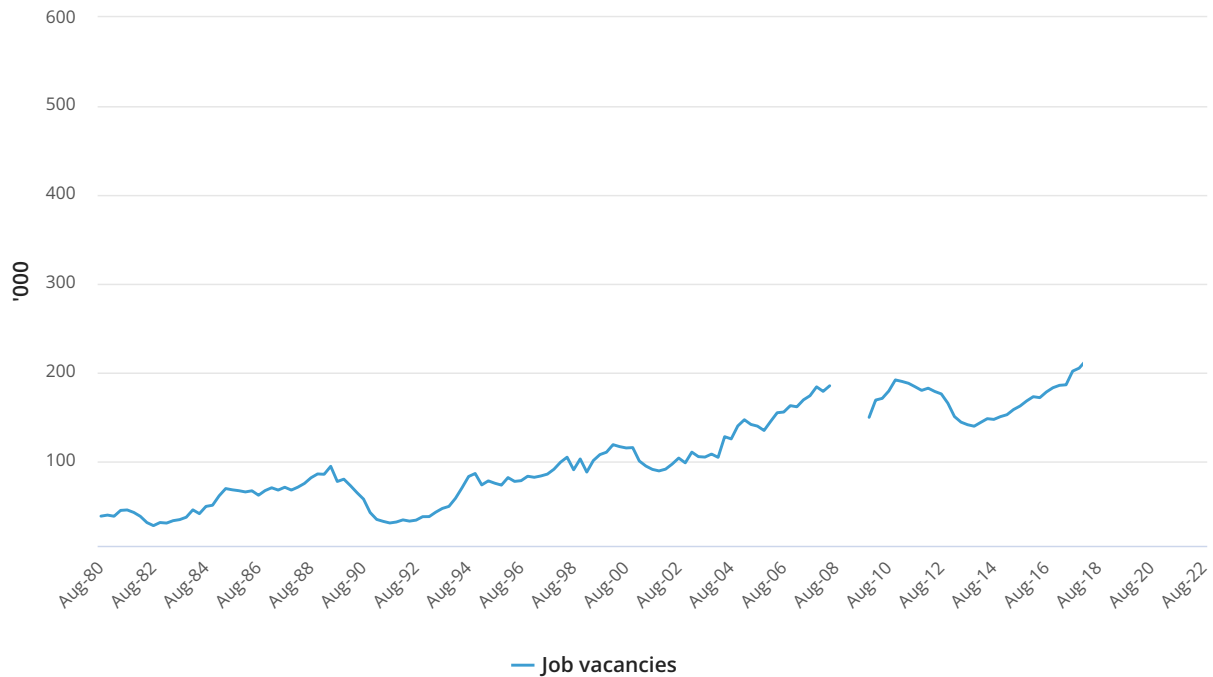
Furthermore, job vacancies count every position advertised within a single notice, while some job advertisements may be used to fill multiple positions.

Job vacancies over time

Job vacancies decreased by 2.1% (10,000 vacancies) in the three months to August 2022 (seasonally adjusted). The estimates captured a point in time where the winter wave of the pandemic had peaked and was in decline, although hospitalisation cases remained high.

Despite the slight decrease in job vacancies this quarter, the level of job vacancies in August 2022 remained elevated. Job vacancies were 107.4% higher than they were in February 2020, prior to the start of the pandemic. The ongoing high level of vacancies reflects organisations across the economy indicating labour shortages and ongoing disruptions to operations, particularly in household goods and services industries.

Job vacancies, seasonally adjusted

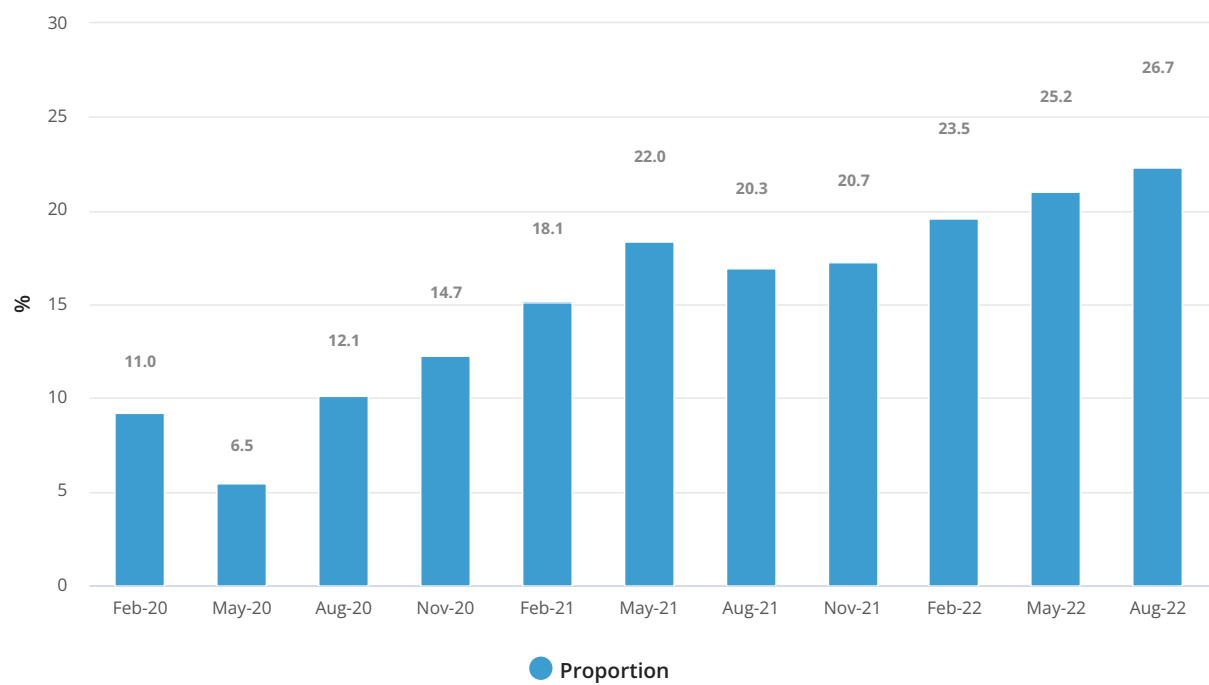


The Job Vacancies Survey was suspended between August 2008 to August 2009 (inclusive).

Businesses reporting vacancies

The number of businesses reporting at least one vacancy shows the extent of the acute reduction in labour demand in May 2020, as well as the subsequent change since then. In February 2020, just prior to the main effects of COVID-19, the proportion of businesses reporting at least one vacancy was 11.0%. In May 2020, a much lower proportion of businesses reported at least one vacancy (6.5%). By August 2022, this had increased to 26.7%.

Proportion of businesses reporting vacancies, Australia



Proportion of businesses reporting vacancies, states and territories (%)

	Aug-20	Nov-20	Feb-21	May-21	Aug-21	Nov-21	Feb-22	May-22	Aug-22
New South Wales	11.6	15.1	19.6	22.9	19.4	22.3	24.2	26.2	
Victoria	11.5	15.5	18.0	22.0	18.8	21.2	22.9	27.3	
Queensland	13.7	12.9	17.4	22.6	26.9	20.0	26.0	22.8	
South Australia	8.8	9.1	15.7	15.6	13.1	14.7	17.6	17.3	
Western Australia	15.6	16.7	16.3	21.7	21.5	19.5	22.4	28.3	
Tasmania	10.7	14.2	17.8	21.8	15.1	18.5	19.2	19.1	
Northern Territory	20.7	21.0	21.8	26.5	20.8	23.1	27.8	31.6	
Australian Capital Territory	4.7	17.3	12.1	13.8	9.4	13.4	16.6	13.7	
Australia	12.1	14.7	18.1	22.0	20.3	20.7	23.5	25.2	

Proportion of businesses reporting vacancies, industry (%)

	Aug-20	Nov-20	Feb-21	May-21	Aug-21	Nov-21	Feb-22	May-
Mining	16.1	16.3	21.1	11.0	18.1	17.1	27.8	
Manufacturing	14.0	14.6	15.3	15.1	22.9	24.9	29.6	
Electricity, gas, water and waste services	21.9	18.5	13.9	12.8	9.9	21.3	39.2	
Construction	12.0	13.0	22.8	26.9	23.3	21.5	24.3	
Wholesale trade	14.0	17.8	15.2	23.6	22.3	20.5	29.5	
Retail trade	9.9	17.8	16.4	21.6	21.4	15.9	16.6	
Accommodation and food services	13.9	16.9	30.5	30.5	18.3	30.9	32.4	
Transport, postal and warehousing	10.7	4.3	20.2	22.0	15.7	17.3	22.4	
Information media and telecommunications	5.2	14.0	18.3	20.0	15.9	15.5	19.8	
Financial and insurance services	6.6	15.7	16.9	20.5	10.3	5.5	14.8	
Rental, hiring and real estate services	11.8	12.8	11.1	16.9	19.3	15.1	20.1	
Professional, scientific and technical services	14.8	14.2	14.5	16.4	15.4	16.6	17.6	
Administrative and support services	16.2	18.9	17.1	23.6	29.8	30.5	36.2	
Public administration and safety	27.9	35.4	30.0	42.2	29.8	27.5	33.5	
Education and training	10.8	5.2	8.6	11.5	9.7	9.1	9.9	
Health care and social assistance	8.9	13.6	13.4	23.3	21.2	26.7	18.9	
Arts and recreation services	2.1	21.0	3.1	14.0	9.3	6.7	8.3	
Other services	11.1	16.7	21.1	22.8	28.1	25.4	32.7	
All industries	12.1	14.7	18.1	22.0	20.3	20.7	23.5	

Reasons for vacancies (%)

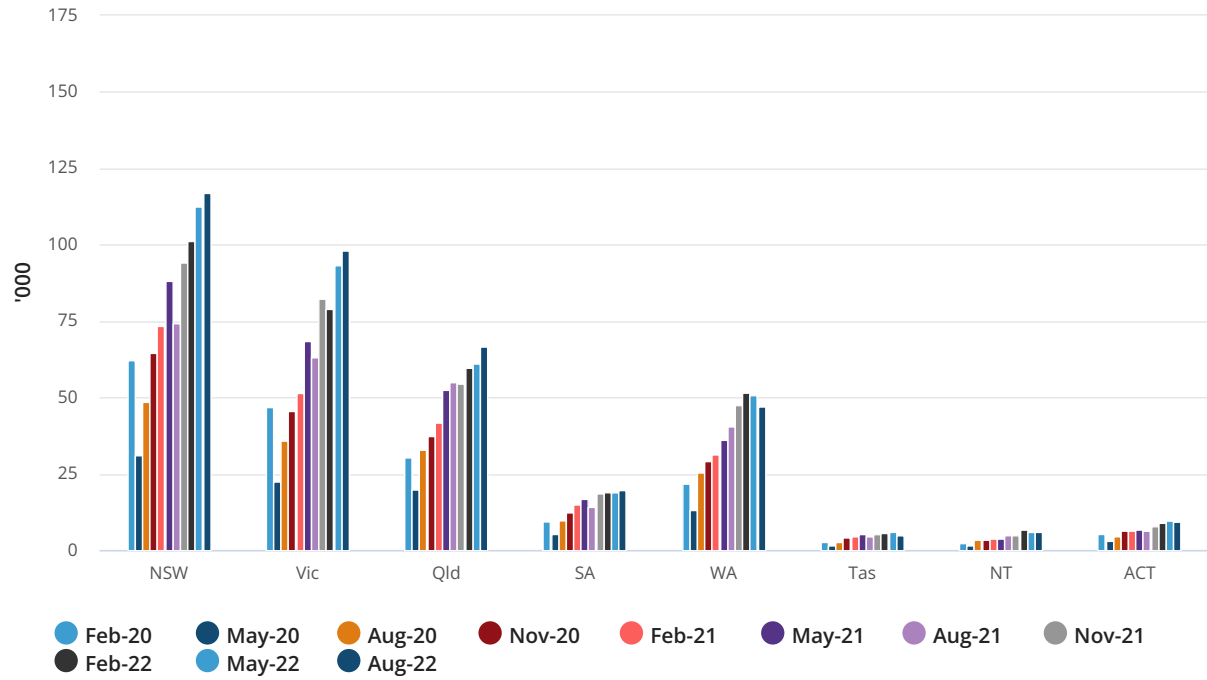
	Aug-20	Nov-20	Feb-21	May-21	Aug-21	Nov-21	Feb-22
Replacement/resignations	75.3	75.1	76.2	76.0	75.1	77.4	79.7
Increased workload	36.7	41.3	44.5	45.4	42.3	45.9	47.8
Expansion of business	19.9	21.2	25.4	26.8	25.3	25.7	25.9
Restructure	14.6	16.8	14.0	14.3	15.7	13.8	13.9
Relocation	1.0	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.5	1.0
Seasonal	11.7	16.4	10.1	10.0	11.4	19.0	12.0
Special event	3.0	2.3	2.1	2.1	2.5	2.4	2.1
Takeover	1.5	1.0	1.0	1.4	1.4	1.6	2.0
Other	11.9	10.9	8.8	10.3	11.8	12.0	12.9

Businesses may have multiple reasons for reporting job vacancies

Proportions are of businesses that reported at least one vacancy

States and territories

Job vacancies, states and territories, original

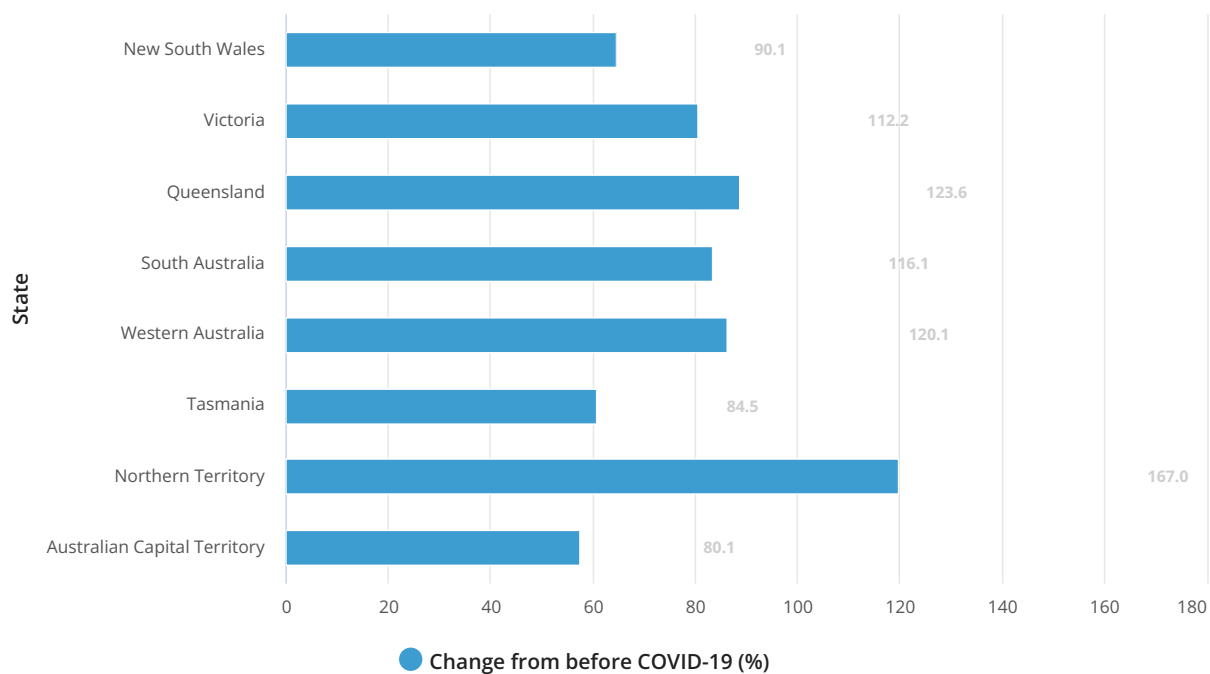


Change in job vacancies, states and territories (%)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia	Australia (Seasonally adjusted)
Change from previous quarter										
May-21	20.0	33.4	25.6	10.4	15.6	14.4	5.1	7.2	22.1	29.0
Aug-21	-15.6	-7.1	5.0	-15.8	12.7	-10.3	21.1	-8.8	-5.2	-9.8
Nov-21	27.0	30.4	-0.4	31.9	16.9	17.3	1.5	23.9	20.1	18.9
Feb-22	7.5	-4.0	9.4	3.1	9.2	7.6	36.6	15.9	5.5	5.8
May-22	11.6	18.0	2.2	0.0	-1.9	2.8	-8.7	7.5	8.0	14.4
Aug-22	3.9	5.4	9.1	3.1	-6.8	-16.6	-1.3	-2.9	3.0	-2.1
Change from corresponding quarter of previous year										
Aug-20	-14.6	-25.2	7.8	10.2	21.9	-6.1	-1.8	-25.6	-8.1	-8.0
Aug-21	53.0	77.7	67.5	44.0	61.7	70.0	44.0	42.0	62.0	61.9
Aug-22	58.4	55.7	21.6	40.3	16.7	8.3	24.9	50.0	41.0	40.8

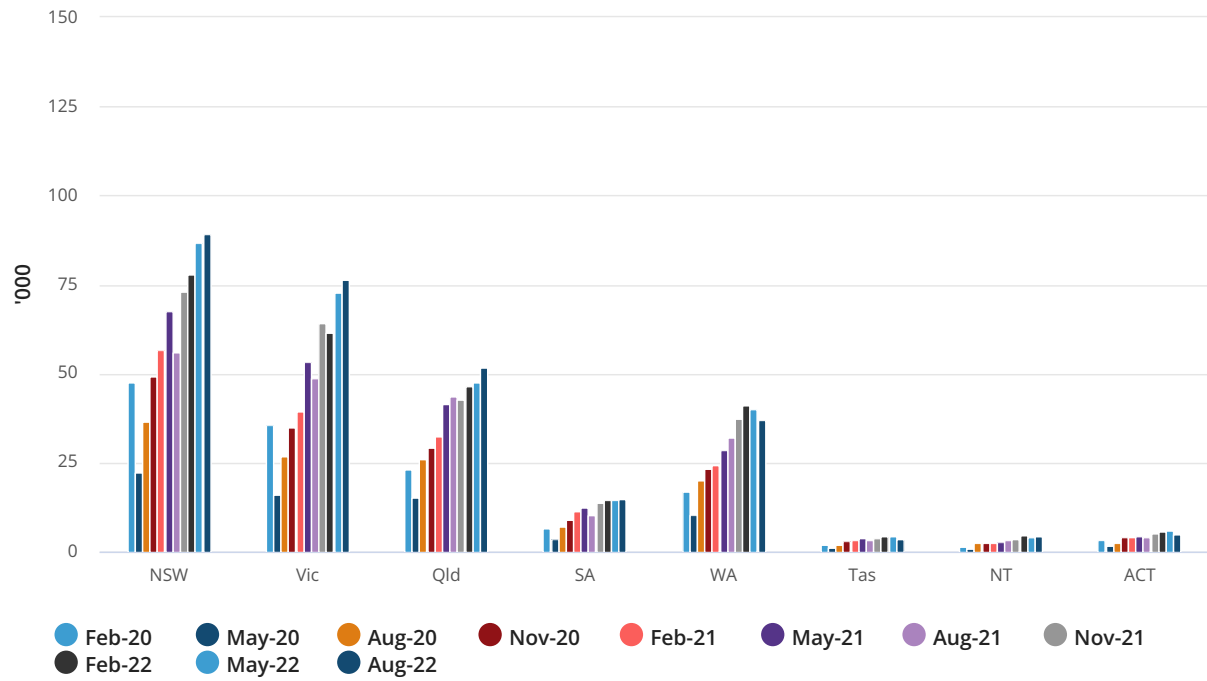
Data refers to original series unless otherwise stated

Job vacancies, change from February 2020 to August 2022, states and territories, original



Private sector

Job vacancies, private sector, states and territories, original



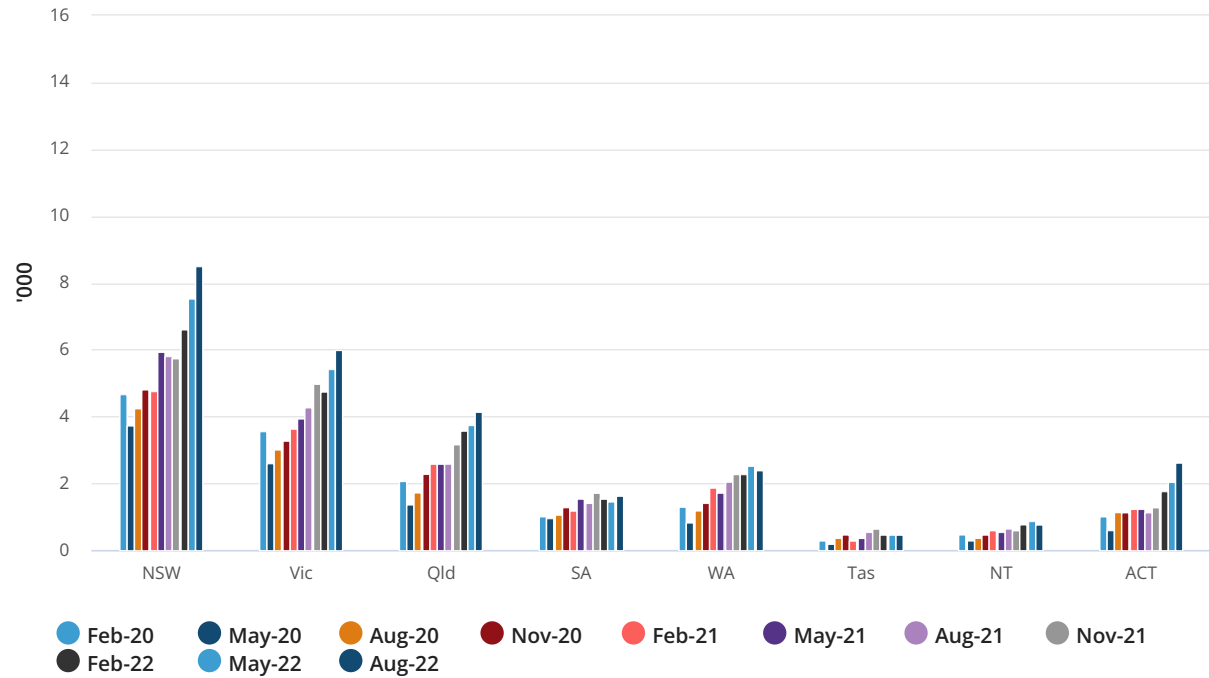
Change in job vacancies, private sector (%)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia	Australia (Seasonally adjusted)
Change from previous quarter										
May-21	19.5	36.1	27.8	8.1	17.7	14.6	9.1	10.5	23.3	31.3
Aug-21	-17.0	-8.5	5.4	-17.1	12.1	-16.4	21.1	-8.4	-6.0	-11.0
Nov-21	30.3	31.8	-2.0	34.4	17.4	16.0	3.6	26.1	21.1	19.7
Feb-22	6.9	-3.9	9.1	4.8	9.9	15.1	37.4	10.5	5.4	5.5
May-22	11.4	18.2	1.9	0.3	-2.7	2.7	-12.3	3.4	7.7	14.9
Aug-22	3.0	5.0	8.9	2.1	-7.0	-18.1	1.5	-14.5	2.3	-3.3
Change from corresponding quarter of previous year										
Aug-20	-15.9	-27.3	11.0	11.7	23.3	-6.5	-1.7	-27.4	-8.2	-8.1
Aug-21	55.0	82.3	68.8	46.0	60.8	72.9	39.5	65.1	64.5	64.4
Aug-22	59.7	57.1	18.8	44.2	16.7	12.3	26.8	23.2	40.6	40.4

Data refers to original series unless otherwise stated

Public sector

Job vacancies, public sector, states and territories, original



Change in job vacancies, public sector (%)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia	Australia (Seasonally adjusted)
Change from previous quarter										
May-21	25.4	7.8	0.8	31.3	-7.6	11.9	-10.1	-1.9	10.4	7.8
Aug-21	-1.8	9.4	-1.5	-6.0	20.3	48.9	21.0	-10.2	3.6	3.9
Nov-21	-1.2	16.1	23.7	16.5	9.5	24.4	-8.3	16.9	10.4	10.7
Feb-22	15.2	-4.6	12.1	-9.1	-0.5	-30.4	31.9	34.6	6.4	8.1
May-22	14.3	15.4	5.4	-2.2	11.4	3.8	11.2	19.2	11.7	9.4
Aug-22	13.3	10.5	11.4	11.3	-4.4	-3.9	-13.5	26.0	10.2	10.5
Change from corresponding quarter of previous year										
Aug-20	-3.4	-2.6	-22.3	2.6	3.5	-3.9	-2.1	-22.1	-7.1	-6.8
Aug-21	37.3	41.7	50.0	32.4	74.9	55.3	69.3	-2.1	41.0	41.3
Aug-22	47.4	41.2	62.9	15.3	16.1	-13.6	16.5	136.5	44.6	44.7

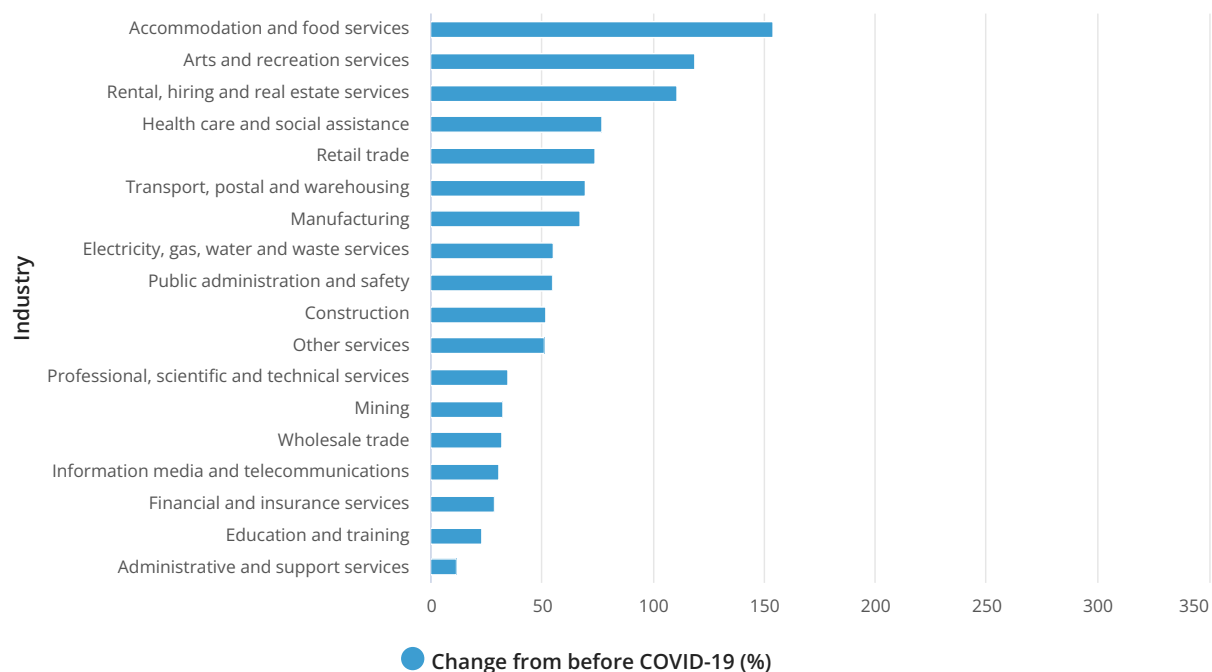
Data refers to original series unless otherwise stated

Industry

Job vacancies, industry, original ('000)

	May-21	Aug-21	Nov-21	Feb-22	May-22	Aug-22
Mining	8.3	8.4	9.7	10.6	11.2	10.6
Manufacturing	20.7	23.2	29.5	30.6	28.9	28.3
Electricity, gas, water and waste services	3.0	3.0	3.5	4.0	4.2	4.4
Construction	29.9	23.2	30.0	35.2	39.9	33.5
Wholesale trade	17.8	14.4	16.7	21.7	19.2	20.5
Retail trade	34.3	33.6	36.0	29.1	40.3	46.1
Accommodation and food services	38.2	27.6	45.8	46.1	51.9	59.1
Transport, postal and warehousing	10.6	11.5	13.3	14.7	15.2	17.7
Information media and telecommunications	3.7	3.5	4.7	4.5	5.3	5.4
Financial and insurance services	17.9	15.8	17.0	18.1	20.2	18.6
Rental, hiring and real estate services	7.8	5.8	8.5	9.3	9.7	10.1
Professional, scientific and technical services	31.9	31.7	37.1	42.1	42.9	44.1
Administrative and support services	35.2	36.8	39.9	40.6	38.2	38.0
Public administration and safety	17.2	17.5	18.9	21.5	24.1	27.5
Education and training	10.5	9.8	10.2	11.6	12.7	11.2
Health care and social assistance	47.7	51.2	60.2	60.2	68.9	74.3
Arts and recreation services	5.4	3.9	7.4	6.2	7.2	6.6
Other services	15.4	16.0	16.1	20.7	21.1	18.8

Job vacancies, change from February 2020 to August 2022, industry, original



Data Downloads

Trend estimates suspension

Trend estimates have been suspended from May 2020 for all job vacancies series due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the labour market.

Time series spreadsheets

⬇ Download all (336.83 KB)

Table 1. Job vacancies, state and territories ('000)

⬇ [Download XLSX](#)
[96.35 KB]

Table 2. Job vacancies, private sector, state and territories ('000)

↓ [Download XLSX](#)

[109.59 KB]

Table 3. Job vacancies, public sector, state and territories ('000)

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[92.5 KB]

Table 4. Job vacancies, industry, Australia ('000) - original

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[66.42 KB]

Previous catalogue number

This release previously used catalogue number 6354.0.

Methodology

[Job Vacancies, Australia methodology, August 2022](#)